

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAKE PARK COUNCIL MEETING
3801 LAKE PARK ROAD, LAKE PARK, NC
PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET &
REGULAR SESSION – 7:00 P.M.
JUNE 12, 2007**

ATTENDING: Mayor John Ross
Mayor Pro Tem Sandy Coughlin
Council Members: Sarah Barbour, Greg Crosby,
Kendall Spence, Jo Waybright
Attorney Ken Swain
Village Clerk Cheri Clark
Absent: Finance Officer Cheryl Bennett

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2007 - 2008 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor John Ross called the Proposed 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED VILLAGE OF LAKE PARK 2007 – 2008

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET: Cheryl Bennett prepared the Proposed Budget for Council review. Amounts appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the VOLP for the 2007 – 2008 fiscal year are as follows:

General Administrative Expenses	\$ 56,005.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 32,000.00
Maintenance of Common Areas	\$208,500.00
Operating Costs	\$ 28,000.00
Other Expenditures	\$ 24,540.00
Parks and Recreation	\$ 80,160.00
Professional Fees	\$ 13,200.00
Public Services/Safety	\$471,042.00
Powell Bill	\$ 87,000.00
Total	\$1,000,447.00

The estimated revenues available in the General Fund for the same time period are as follows:

Property Tax Income	\$518,980.00
State Shared Revenues	\$264,000.00
Parks and Recreation Revenue	\$ 53,650.00
Other Taxes	\$ 18,000.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 33,017.00
Other Revenues	\$ 25,800.00

Powell Bill	\$ 87,000.00
Total	\$1,000,447.00

Section 3: There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of twenty-three cents (\$.23) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2007.

This rate is based on a total valuation of real and personal property for the purposes of taxation of \$202,055,880 and an estimated rate of collection of 98%, and a valuation of \$25,000,000 for motor vehicles, and an estimated collection rate of 92%.

Section 4: The Budget Officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a. She may transfer amounts between line item expenditures, or from Contingency, up to a dollar amount of \$1,000.
- b. An official report on all transfers should be made to Council at the next scheduled meeting.
- c. Transfers should not be made to salary accounts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

William Parker asked about the Garbage Collection fee of \$247,000. He requested more information concerning recycling. Mr. Parker also had an opportunity recently to attend an Economic Development Commission meeting and wanted to know about the Commission's charter.

COUNCIL COMMENT:

Sandy Coughlin stated that the proposed budget for Street Lighting, Waste Collection and Economic Development Commission were as conservative as possible.

ADJOURN: Jo Waybright made a motion to adjourn the Budget Public Hearings. Kendall Spence seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H. Ross
Mayor

Cheri S. Clark
Village Clerk

REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ross called the Regular Session of the Village of Lake Park Council to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Budget Workshop Session – April 26, 2007

Sandy Coughlin made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Regular Session – May 8, 2007

Sandy Coughlin made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kendall Spence seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Virginia Currence commented on the new North Carolina flag and thanked Greg Tost and Kendall Spence for installing the chair rail.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Kendall Spence made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Jo Waybright seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

SECURITY REPORT: Sarah Barbour discussed the accident on Unionville – Indian Trail Road – June 11th. There is a blind spot at the intersection. Mayor John Ross has been in contact with the DOT Assistant Signal Guide – Mr. David Nailer. The intersection will be improved to include turn lanes and a signal light in the late October or January 2008. The Mayor of Indian Trail is also very aware of the issues with the intersection.

Sarah Barbour discussed the options available to handle funding for National Night Out. The funds will need to flow thorough the VOLP. Ken Swain discussed the issue with a couple of municipalities and they have a line item in their budget for contributions and expenses for the event. The donations and the ability to use the donations as a tax deduction is placed upon the contributor.

The July newsletter will have an article concerning National Night Out and Kendall Spence will coordinate having a donation jar at the Fourth of July event.

PROPOSED 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET: Mayor John Ross reviewed the status of the Proposed Budget. The Proposed Budget was originally put together at the Budget Workshop in April, the Budget Message was presented at the May Council meeting in conjunction with the Proposed Budget and the Public Hearing was held prior to Council this evening. Sandy Coughlin made a motion to approve the Proposed 2007-2008 Budget as amended to \$1,000,447. Kendall Spence seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

**Village of Lake Park
Budget Ordinance
2007-2008**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Village of Lake Park, North Carolina:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the village government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this Village:

General Administrative Expense	\$ 56,005
Capital Outlay	32,000
Maintenance of Common Areas	208,500
Operating Costs	28,000
Other Expenditures	24,540
Parks & Recreation	80,160
Professional Fees	13,200
Public Services/Safety	471,042
Powell Bill	87,000
Total	\$1,000,447

Section 2: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008:

Property Tax Income	\$ 518,980
State Shared Revenues	264,000
Parks & Recreation Revenue	53,650
Other Taxes	18,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	33,017
Other Revenues	25,800
Powell Bill	87,000
Total	\$ 1,000,447

Section 3: There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of twenty-three cents (\$.23) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2007.

This rate is based on a total valuation of real and personal property for the purposes of taxation of \$202,055,880 and an estimated rate of collection of 98%, and a valuation of \$25,000,000 for motor vehicles, and an estimated collection rate of 92%.

Section 4: The Budget Officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations as contained herein under the following conditions:

- c. She may transfer amounts between line item expenditures, or from Contingency, up to a dollar amount of \$1,000.
- d. An official report on all transfers should be made to Council at the next scheduled meeting.
- e. Transfers should not be made to salary accounts.

Section 5: Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board and to the Budget Officer and Finance Officer to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

Adopted this ____th day of June, 2007.

Attest:

Cheri Clark, Village Clerk

John Ross, Mayor

Sandy Coughlin made the motion to approve the Village of Lake Park Budget Ordinance 2007-2008 as amended to \$1,000,447.00. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Vote Unanimous. The Village of Lake Park has its' first million dollar budget.

Budget Ordinance Amendment 2006/07 was presented as follows:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Village of Lake Park, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the appropriations are to be changed as follows:

<u>Expenditures:</u>	Decrease	Increase
Pond Maintenance	\$974	
Seasonal Decorations	\$1,637	
Recreation Programs	\$481	
Park Maintenance		\$1,637
Com. Center Maint.		\$1,455

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, and to the Budget/Finance Officer for their direction.

Adopted this 12th day of June, 2007.

Attest:

Village Clerk Cheri Clark

Mayor John Ross

Kendall Spence made the motion to accept the Budget Ordinance Amendment 2006/07 as presented. Jo Waybright seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Mayor John Ross shared that at the Budget Workshop, Council decided that as a governing body, we would encourage citizens to make individual donations but that the Council would not expend public funds for donations.

FINANCIAL OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORT: Per Cheryl Bennett's request, Cheri Clark read into the minutes the following e-mail:

In May I made the following budget transfer, in accordance with my authority to transfer up to \$1000 and provide disclosure to Council. Cheri, please include this in the June minutes.

	<i>Increase</i>	<i>Decrease</i>
<i>Pool Mgt. Fee</i>		<i>\$137</i>
<i>Park Maint.</i>	<i>\$568</i>	
<i>Pool Operations</i>		<i>\$63</i>
<i>Pool Maint.</i>	<i>\$200</i>	
<i>Landscape Contract</i>		<i>\$168</i>
<i>Postage</i>	<i>\$90</i>	
<i>Advertising</i>	<i>\$100</i>	
<i>Assoc. Dues</i>		<i>\$190</i>
<i>Pond Maint.</i>		<i>\$400</i>

Cheryl Bennett

TAX OFFICER'S REPORT: Cheri Clark reported that the VOLP has collected 99% of the 2006 property taxes. There are fourteen delinquent parcels According to GS105-355; the VOLP is required to advertise all delinquent property taxes before July 1, 2007. Letters have been sent to the delinquent accounts providing 30 days written notification for advertisement. The ad will run in the Union Observer on Thursday, June 28th.

Cheri Clark requested a motion to refund Cypress Homes, LLC - \$137.06 due to the overpayment of property taxes and Pikey Walters \$80.40 due to incorrect taxes being charged for 2004, 2005 and 2006. Kendall Spence made the motion to approve the refunds. Jo Waybright seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

WASTE COLLECTION: Sandy Coughlin stated that the waste collection figures are on target with the budget (per the contract).

COMMUNICATIONS: Greg Crosby is working on the next edition of the newsletter. The cutoff for articles is June 27th.

PARK AND RECREATION: Kendall Spence reminded Council that the dedication of the William Mack Currence Chamber and Memorial Garden is June 16th at 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed for the Fourth of July celebration. New patriotic banners have been placed on the light poles around Town Center.

Jo Waybright provided pool membership figures to date - \$44,668.

Kendall Spence made a motion for the VOLP to enter into a contract extension with Lucas Lawn and Landscaping until March 2011. Sandy Coughlin seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Kendall Spence made a motion to have Indian Trail Service Company, repair, repaint and install screens behind the gables at the Community Center not to exceed \$1600.00. Sandy Coughlin seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Kendall Spence made a motion to start charging the same rate for usage during the week (previously there was no usage charge during the week) as the weekend for use of the Community Center effective July 1, 2007. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous. The Parks and Recreation Commission will bring to Council suggested verbiage changes for the Parks Policy and Reservation Guidelines including information on Fishing Permits.

Norris Jeffrey provided the Lake Park Waterfowl Management report along with information on Aquatic Vegetation Control, Pollution Prevention: Animal Waste Collection and Clean Waters – Starting in Your Home and Yard.

Please use this email for the monthly waterfowl report for the Village Council.

Goose Egg Addling has been terminated for this year and I am preparing a final report which I hope to have ready for the June Parks and Rec meeting.

Results from a couple of recent daytime counts indicate that we have a variable adult goose population of around 50-60 birds.....We also have a population of around 25 goslings. While we missed a few nests in Lake Park egg addling, I believe that most of these goslings came from surrounding property owned by others...

Nighttime adult hazing with lasers continues when overnighting goose numbers increase.

Remember, our objective is not to eliminate the geese but to reduce their numbers and the negative impacts they have on our parks (sidewalks) and ponds.

On another matter, the stocking of largemouth bass fingerlings (2-3") at a rate of 80 per acre in 12 of our 13 ponds was completed successfully this past week. The small pond in Russell Park was not stocked. I will submit a final report with the exact numbers for the official record. These fish were stocked at no cost to Lake Park by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. A letter thanking the Commission and Fishery Biologist Lawrence Dorsey, Albemarle NC and Assistant Superintendent Peter Lamb from the Watha NC (near Burgaw north of Wilmington) fish hatchery as been prepared for Mayor Ross and Parks and Recreation Chair Kendall Spence.

A short comment on the geese in Connies Pond. Apparently the numbers have increased lately.....I wonder if the increase is due to the newly planted grass following installation of the rip rap? These geese are

smart birds and really appreciate new grass.....The long term plan should include planting beds to surround the pond adjacent to the rip rap with the elimination of as much turf as possible....The rip rap was intended to deal with the muskrats NOT the geese.... Long term we need to reduce turf and establish more native areas with shrubs and planting beds thus attracting more wild birds and wildlife and fewer geese....

Waterfowl feeding by residents has diminished significantly although there are still several problem areas....We had a good crop of mallard ducklings but the mortality rates on these young birds is very high. I notice a lot of domestic cats roaming at night.....

The "Doggie Doo" index in our parks and pond banks is at an all time high due to the failure of many residents to obey the pet clean up and leash laws (yes we do have a leash law in Lake Park Parks and also in the Garden District covenants). This behavior reflects ignorance of the law and the lack of knowledge about the impacts of the pet wastes on our enviroment, a general indifference and just plain laziness plus and a need for public education and enforcement.

We have a wonderful parks ordinance and a MISERABLE ALMOST NON EXISTENT LAW ENFORCEMENT of this ordinance with very little effort directed to improving the quality of the environment in our parks and ponds...Improved signage posted near the ponds and parks would be most helpful both to enforcement and education.....

The following was presented to Parks and Rec at the May meeting...

A few thoughts on the future of Lake Park waterfowl management that the Parks and Rec Commission and the Village Council might wish to consider.

1. A requirement that both the Village Council and the Parks and Recreation

Commission have a formal vote on the endorsement of the program and its activities. This could be preceded by a public hearing. Program should be endorsed, reviewed and approved by elected and appointed representatives of the citizens of Lake Park and have appropriate input from citizens. Program infrastructure needs to be developed that will insure a future that is not dependent upon a single individual and volunteerism.

2. The program and its component activities need to be documented by a formal written and detailed statement of work. The current outline of the program provides flexibility needed during the learning process but needs to be more specific. Major elements in the statement of work should include but not be limited to: Hazing with lasers and radio controlled watercraft;

Egg Addling using as a general guideline the Humane Society protocol but allowing for limited exceptions such as early nest destruction and selective

waiver of the float test. Monthly reports should continue

3. Liability insurance for volunteers

4. Publicity in the Lake Park Villager

5. Annual formal public program review of accomplishments, issues and changes needed.

6. Effective enforcement of Village ordinances dealing with waterfowl feeding, animal wastes (Dogs), animal cruelty and harassment.

6. Effective signage posted in parks and common areas near ponds to assist both enforcement and education. Ongoing education and outreach to the community.

Kendall Spence thanked Greg Tost for all of his time and effort installing the chair rail in Chambers.

STREET BUSINESS:

The VOLP is in receipt of the Powell Bill application for 2007 - 2008. Eagle Engineering will be providing the requested street map and Cheryl Bennett will provide the requested financial information.

Mayor John Ross has been working with Wanda Smith and Chris Mathisen on Union County's financial obligations with regards to the Fred Kirby Park as opposed to installing curb and gutter along one-side of Lake Park Road. As Parks and Rec continues to maintain and enhance the VOLP, the original plan for the Village was to have columns at each of the entrances to Lake Park not just on Lake Park Road.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: The next Economic Development workshop is July 24th from 7 to 9 am at the Community Center.

SET AGENDA FOR JULY 19, 2006 COUNCIL MEETING: Omit 6 – New Fiscal Budget 2007-2008.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Jo Waybright wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July and invited everyone to spend the Fourth with family and friends in Russell Park.

Sandy Coughlin thanked the Council for their dedication and encouraged those whose terms were expiring in 2007 to run for another term.

Sarah Barbour made a motion for the Village of Lake Park to donate \$1,000.00 to National Night Out. Kendall Spence seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

ADJOURN: Kendall Spence made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Crosby seconded the motion. Vote – Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H. Ross
Mayor

Cheri S. Clark
Village Clerk